

Despite the controversy that surrounded our involvement in the Vietnamese war, Mr. President, it was a proud nation which presented Mr. Williamson with the Congressional Medal of Honor, because of his enormous personal courage, because of his willingness to risk sacrificing his own life in the service of others, and because neither our military nor our Nation can afford to allow such outstanding individual contributions to go unrecognized.

James I. Williamson was not "the one-in-a-million" exception we sometimes refer to; he was the truly exceptional "one-in-fewer-than-3,500" who displayed the American character at its best and whose actions made clear why our most precious decoration is dedicated to honor—his own and his country's. His family, his community of Harrington, and his State of Delaware will remember him with pride for his extraordinary individual achievement and with humility in the face of his unselfish bravery. ●

DAVID L. FORD

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor one of the remarkable individuals we lost on April 3, 1996, in the plane crash in Croatia which took the life of Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and many other fine Americans. David L. Ford, CEO of InterGuard Corp., a subsidiary of Guardian Industries, headquartered in Auburn Hills, MI, was on that flight to donate 23 metric tons of flat glass to Sarajevo, enough to produce 8,000 windows for the reconstruction of a hospital that was damaged in the war.

When David was first given the opportunity to travel to Bosnia, he thought of how he could best help the city of Sarajevo. He decided that he would help the city recover from the constant shelling of the past 3 years. David was very excited about being able to help the people of Sarajevo. Though he was unable to see his plan fulfilled, his wish was honored when the glass was later delivered by the U.S. Embassy. A plaque commemorating the efforts of David Ford to rebuild Bosnia will be displayed in front of the hospital in Sarajevo.

David worked for Guardian for over 25 years. He was the driving force in opening the European market for the company, which now operates four plants across Europe. He was a diligent and dedicated worker. He was also a deep thinker who was a student of foreign cultures. He traveled extensively in European countries and studied their cultures.

David was a dedicated family man. His wife, Debra Ann Ford, and their children, Kathryn and Douglas, will remember him as a person who brought much happiness into their lives. He was an involved parent who would often accompany his children to school. He recently took a class on a trip to Israel, imparting his knowledge of the world to the children.

David was a man who was very committed to his faith. David was a born-again Christian and a member of Christian Community Church. He was very involved in his community and was the leader of the youth group Teen Section. David has said that, "to be born again means a new beginning, it means change—a new direction." David had this faith in a new direction for Bosnia and the world.

David's own words best show how he viewed his life. "Yes, I had to change. That meant I had to sacrifice some things—the changes are not a list of things to do or not to do. The changes are in your heart. We cannot make these changes alone, by ourselves. God sends us a helper to be with us." The people of Sarajevo were indeed sent such a helper in David Ford.

I know that my Senate colleagues join me in honoring the life of David L. Ford. ●

THE 205TH ANNIVERSARY OF POLAND'S CONSTITUTION

● Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I rise today in support of Senate Joint Resolution 51, a resolution to commemorate the 205th anniversary of Poland's constitution. This resolution was introduced by my good friend, the distinguished Republican leader and senior Senator from Kansas, BOB DOLE. The purpose of the resolution is to salute and congratulate Polish people around the world, including Americans of Polish descent, as on May 3, 1996 they commemorate the 205th anniversary of the first Polish constitution, to recognize the rebirth of Poland as a free and independent nation in the spirit of the 1791 constitution, and to urge the people and state and local governments of the United States to observe this anniversary with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

The Polish constitution of 1791 is closely related to our own constitution, because it was heavily influenced by a Polish hero of the American Revolution, General Thaddeus Kosciuszko, who returned to his native land after the war, carrying with him the concepts we fought to establish and preserve in the revolution. While Poland enjoyed this new constitution for less than 2 years, it established principles and ideals that still live in modern Poland.

Polish people have made major contributions to the United States in all fields of endeavor. The first manufacturing facility in America was established by a Pole in Jamestown, VA. The first institution of higher learning in New Amsterdam was established by Dr. Alexander Kurcysz. In addition to General Kosciuszko, another famous Pole, Count Casimir Pulaski, aided our fight for independence from Great Britain. He is known as the "Father of the American Cavalry" because General Washington put him in charge of developing and leading that arm in the war. He had a brilliant career in the Con-

tinental Army. Unfortunately, he was mortally wounded in the siege of Savannah and later buried at sea.

More modern Polish-Americans who made notable contributions range from Arthur Rubenstein to Stan Musial and Leon Jaworski. In every field, Polish-Americans worked hard to make America what it is today.

New York is home to a great many Americans of Polish descent. Almost 1.2 million New Yorkers claim a Polish heritage. According to the Census Bureau, about 17 percent of all U.S. residents who speak Polish at home live in New York.

I am confident that our adoption of this resolution will be met with appreciation and that May 3 will be a date that will be met with appropriate celebration in the Polish-American community. I again express my strong support for this resolution and I urge my colleagues to vote for it. ●

THE 81ST ANNIVERSARY OF ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, George Santayana wrote that "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." We have an obligation, just as our forebears had, to teach following generations what occurred in the world before they were born. It is this passing of information from generation to generation that weaves the fabric of our collective history and serves as a guide for the future. We can never change the facts of history, but we can work to make sure that injustices are not repeated out of ignorance of those facts. It is only through the constant and vigilant education of our children and each other that we can hope to end man's inhumanity to man.

When Adolf Hitler was planning the Jewish Holocaust he said, "Who today remembers the extermination of the Armenians?" I am here today to bear witness to the fact that we do remember the Armenians who fell prey to genocide and we will continue to work to spread that knowledge so that similar events never again occur.

Today, April 24, 1996, we commemorate the 81st anniversary of the 1915-1923 genocide of the Armenian people. In a world that sometimes seems to have gone mad with random violent acts, we must remember the victims of a government organized terror, the genocide perpetrated by the Turkish Ottoman Empire against the Armenian people.

Eighty-one years ago this week, the 8-year-long savagery against the Armenian people began. Each year we remember and honor the victims and pay respect to the survivors we still are blessed to have in our midst. We vow to remember, to always remember, the attempt to eliminate the Armenian people from the face of the Earth, not for what they had done as individuals, but because of who they were.

For the most part, nations did not learn from history—the world looked